

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0023] Methods are described for attaching molecules to a solid phase, such as a magnetic bead. Free amine groups on the solid surface react with a molecule that contains a sulfhydryl group. The sulfhydryl group may, but need not be protected. The molecule is then reacted with a conjugate of linker and ligand. The linker has a reactive maleimide or sulfhydryl group which reacts with the molecule on the solid phase.